

Amendments to the specification:

On page 1, after the title, please insert the following:

Cross Reference to Related Documents

This application is a 371 of PCT/DE01/00497, filed February 9, 2001, which claims the benefit of German Patent Applications: No. 100 09 053.2, filed February 28, 2000 and No. 100 30 353.6, filed June 21, 2000.

On page 1, line 4, please amend the heading as follows:

~~Prior Art~~ Background of the Invention

On page 1, please amend the paragraph contained in lines 6-7 as follows:

The invention relates to a method for producing a shaft, and an apparatus containing such a shaft ~~according to the general class of the independent claims.~~

On page 1, line 23, please amend the heading as follows:

~~Advantages~~ Summary of the Invention

Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 1-2 as follows:

The method according to the invention ~~having the features of Claim 4~~ has the advantage that the favorable offset of end play with the damping rubber can continue to be used even when the shaft is fabricated not very exact to

length in production. By introducing an additional working step, the manufacturing-related length of the shaft subject to tolerance can be decoupled from the elimination of the end play of the shaft. This also makes a very cost-effective and simple manufacture of the endless screw on the armature shaft possible. The end play is suppressed even more reliably as compared with earlier means for attaining the object of the invention, because the tolerance stack-ups are markedly lower after the material displacement than before. The useful life of the armature shaft is increased as a result and clicking noises produced when the direction of rotation changes are reliably prevented.

On page 2, please amend the paragraph contained in lines 7-18 as follows:

~~Advantageous further developments of the method according to Claim 4 are made possible by means of the features listed in the subclaims.~~ If the material displacement takes place near an end of the shaft, the stability of the shaft across the entire length is largely maintained. Additionally, the material displacement at this point does not take up any additional space. If the material displacement is carried out by means of burnishing, this is a cost-effective, exact and easy-to-use process. Burnishing brings about a continuous elongation of the shaft that can be well-controlled. The burnishing results in an even constriction, which also has a very advantageous effect on the stability of the shaft. It is also possible to achieve the material displacement simply by means of squeezing,

however. Such a working step is less expensive than burnishing, but it does not entirely achieve the same dimensional accuracy.

On page 4, line 1, please amend the heading as follows:

Diagram Brief Description of the Drawings

On page 4, line 8, please amend the heading as follows:

Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments

On page 5, please amend the paragraph contained in lines 14-20 as follows:

A simple method for material displacement 46 is given by the burnishing of the shaft 22 on its end 29. This method is to be preferred over others because a burnishing device 54 must be held in front anyway in order to produce the endless screw 26 on the armature shaft 22. The burnishing for material displacement 46 can thereby be carried out in one working step, i.e., simultaneously with the burnishing of the endless screw 26 26, or one directly after the other during one chucking on the burnishing machine 54.

On page 10, please amend the abstract of the disclosure as follows:

Abstract of the Disclosure

The invention relates to a method for producing a shaft (22), and an apparatus containing such a shaft (22), in particular an armature shaft (22) of an electric motor-driven drive (12) that is brought to a nominal dimension (44). ~~It is proposed that the~~ The shaft (22) ~~be~~ is reshaped by means of material displacement (46) at at least one point until the nominal dimension (44) is reached.

~~(Figure 1)~~